

News Release

U of M Crookston Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) Team Named 2011 Regional Champions; Marks 12th Consecutive Win for Team from Crookston Campus

By Itollefs on Monday, April 4, 2011

The University of Minnesota, Crookston Students in Free Enterprise (SIFE) team traveled to the 2011 Regional Competition on March 30, in Minneapolis, Minn., where they were named Regional Champions for a 12th consecutive time. They will be competing against teams from around the United States at the National Competition in Minneapolis, Minn., on May 10-12. They are coached by business instructors Kenneth Johnson and Rachel Lundbohm.



Along with being named a Regional Champion, the team was also recognized with a 4.0 Club award which recognizes quality educational programs, success in SIFE, and long-term sustainability to improve the quality of life and standard of living for others, and a Club 44 award, recognizing a SIFE membership of 44 or more active members.

The SIFE Presentation Team, made up of six students from four different countries included: Alexandra Buscher, a senior from Merrifield, Minn.; Chan Liew, a junior from Seoul, South Korea; Dae Yeul Lee, a sophomore from Seoul, South Korea; Abbey Wemimo, a sophomore from Lagos, Nigeria; Yangchen Gurung, a junior from Kathmandu, Nepal; Klint Mahne, a junior from Lake Bronson, Minn. The team also included a Video Tech Team whose members were James Kriegh, a junior from Crookston, Minn.; and Xi Zhou, a senior from Chong Sing, China; presented a 24-minute video presentation that showcased a majority of the projects the SIFE team has done through the year, followed by a five-minute question and answer session.

There were 20 teams from 10 different states in attendance, and the team competed against five other teams in their league including teams from Wisconsin, North Dakota, Colorado, Wyoming, and Minnesota. Of the five teams in the league in which Crookston's team competed, two were selected to go on to nationals. Along with the U of M, Crookston, the other team selected was North Central University in Minneapolis, Minn.

After the presentation, the team was free to attend a job fair which was hosted by SIFE as well as a luncheon and round-table discussion. During the discussion team members met with representatives from various businesses.

The team will now prepare for nationals by making changes to their presentation and annual report based on feedback they received during the competition. Some 400 teams will compete at nationals in May.

SIFE is an international non-profit organization that works with leaders in business and higher education to mobilize university students to make a difference in their communities while developing the skills to become socially responsible business leaders. Participating students form teams on their university campuses and apply business concepts to develop outreach projects that improve the quality of life and standard of living for people in need. The mission of SIFE is to bring together the top leaders of today and tomorrow to create a better, more sustainable world through the positive power of business. To learn more about SIFE, visit www.sife.org.

To learn more about the business program at the U of M, Crookston, visit www.umcrookston.edu/academics/bus.

Today the University of Minnesota, Crookston delivers more than 25 bachelor's degree programs and 50 concentrations, including several online degrees, in agriculture and natural resources; arts, humanities and social sciences; business; and math, science and technology. With an enrollment of about 1,300 undergraduates, the Crookston campus offers a supportive, close-knit atmosphere that leads to a prestigious University of Minnesota degree. "Small Campus. Big Degree." To learn more, visit www.umcrookston.edu.

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